

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02552 190628Z

12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 114439

O 190600Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 688

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 2552

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, IR

SUBJ: IRAN AND PANAM

REF: TEHRAN 2210

1. MEHDI SAMII, CHIEF IRANIAN NEGOTIATOR IN PANAM DEAL, INFORMED DCM MORNING MARCH 19 THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH PANAM LEGAL COUNSEL GEORGE BALL AND ASSOCIATES HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND EVERYTHING AGREED TO UNTIL "A BOMBSHELL" WAS DROPPED YESTERDAY (MARCH 18). THE BOMBSHELL CONSISTED OF THE NEWS THAT ACCORDING TO THE FAA, US LAWS PROHIBIT A COMPETING AIRLINE FROM BEING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AN AMERICAN AIRLINE. SAMII SAID THIS WAS APPARENTLY A ONE-WAY STREET, HOWEVER, IN THAT THERE WAS NOTHING IN US LAWS WHICH PREVENTED AN AMERICAN AIRLINE SUCH AS PANAM FROM BEING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A FOREIGN AIRLINE. INASMUCH AS THE GOI FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT IRAN AIR SHOULD BE THE CONTRACTING PARTY IN IRAN'S ARRANGEMENT WITH PAN AMERICAN AND PRESUMABLY HAVE A PLACE ON PANAM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AN INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLE NOW SEEMS TO HAVE ARISEN AS THE DEAL NEARS COMPLETION.

2. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO ADVISE US URGENTLY WHETHER SAMII'S UNDERSTANDING OF US LAWS AND/OR REGULATIONS REGARDING THIS MATTER ARE CORRECT, AND IF IT IS, WHETHER THERE IS ANY EXCEPTION OR ARRANGEMENT THAT CAN BE MADE WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE IRAN-PANAM DEAL TO GO FORWARD.
HELMS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 02552 190628Z

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O - MR. JOHNSON.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, LOANS, STOCKS (SECURITIES), AIRLINES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1975
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN02552
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750095-0259
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750334/aaaabeyj.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 TEHRAN 2210
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAN AND PANAM
TAGS: EAIR, IR, PANAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006